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## NEWS OF THE DAY.

### THE WAR.

Dates from Mobile via Nashville report great distress among the poor classes of Mobile. Forrest has his headquarters at West Point, Miss. His command is scattered for a hundred miles around.

Fifteen guerrillas, headed by Sol. Thompson, recently made a dash into the town of Hammondville, Hart County, Ky., robbing its citizens and stores with impunity. The citizens captured two of them, Lewis Porter and the notorious Ben. Cofer. They were turned over to the United States authorities.

From present appearances the drafted from Jersey City will not be called upon to serve, so much money having been obtained for the purchase of substitutes. In Newark the original quota has been exhausted without obtaining the number of drafted men needed, so that the one hundred per cent additional will have to be called upon.

The Hon. W. A. P. Dillingham, Speaker of the Maine House of Representatives, has been appointed to take charge and dispose of confiscated Rebel property in Mississippi. He has accepted the appointment.

Robert Cobb Kennedy, convicted in February last for acting as a spy and in violation of the rules of war, has been sentenced to be hung. The execution will probably take place on the 24th inst.

Nathans, the substitute broker, arrested a few days since by order of Col. Baker, has been released on his giving bonds for future appearance.

Columbia, Va., whence Gen. Sheridan's last dispatch is dated, is a post village on the north bank of the James, 50 miles west of Richmond.

The draft will commence in all the Congressional districts of Maryland, with the exception of the Fourth, on the 15th inst.

Recruiting was quite dull in this City yesterday, only 60 men having been obtained up to a late hour in the afternoon.

Twenty families of notorious bushwhackers have been banished from Dent County, Mo., by order of Gen. E. B. Brown.

### NEWS FROM EUROPE.

By the arrival of the *Hansa* at this port we have three days later news from Europe.

A dispatch from Nassau mentions that twenty-five vessels are lying there idle, the blockade running business being entirely at an end.

The French and English papers are publishing the pretense to Louis Napoleon's life of Caesar. But few of the Paris journals were commenting on the pretense.

Prussia has addressed a new note to Austria, respecting the Schleswig-Holstein question. She demands the cessation of the requisitory territory for the establishment of the canal to connect the German Ocean with the Baltic.

By the arrival of the steamer *Liberty* at this port we have dates from Havana to March 8, and from Vera Cruz to March 3. The Emperor Maximilian has issued two highly important decrees, the one introducing religious toleration, and the other legalizing the sales of church property. The four thousand prisoners captured at Oaxaca have been removed to Puebla. General Garcia has given in his submission to the Empire. In Matamoros the American flag has been hauled down by a mob, in the presence of the Franco-Mexican officials.

### GENERAL NEWS.

There is a strange story afloat in Montreal to the effect that a Commissioner on the part of the Washington Government has been in that city for weeks negotiating with the leaders of the Annexation party, and obtaining information as to the feeling of the people on the subject of a union of Canada with the United States.

There is quite an excitement at Toronto, Canada, caused by controversies between those of the business men who are willing to take American silver at par and those who demand a discount. The Board of Trade are among the latter, and recommend four per cent as the proper rate.

There is a man in Chicago who is doing a large business in dealing the diseased by simply touching them. The hall in which he manipulates is daily crowded by hundreds afflicted by all the ills that flesh is heir to. His patients profess to believe themselves cured.

The haul of bounty-jumpers recently made by Col. Baker at Hoboken turns out to be not quite as large as at first reported. On account of suspicious that all was not right he only secured some 200 jumpers and 17 brokers.

The Hon. Daniel Voorhees, Judge Hughes, late of the Court of Claims, and J. H. Bradley, have been retained to defend Miss Harris, who recently killed Burroughs, a clerk in the Treasury Department at Washington.

The mechanics of this city are engaged in a movement to secure higher wages. In the cases of masons, plasterers, stone-cutters and carpenters they have already succeeded.

A mass-meeting of the citizens of Orleans County opposed to the bill repealing the restrictions on the New York Central Railroad, was held at Albion on the 7th inst.

The sessions of the Senate Investigating Committee were resumed yesterday. A number of witnesses were examined and the investigation adjourned to to-day.

Ex-Alderman Barry died in this City on Saturday evening. He had represented the Second District for two years, and was a well-known Democrat.

The Democratic State Convention of Pennsylvania will be held at Harrisburg, in the hall of the House of Representatives, on the 21st of June next.

The recent revocation of the order compelling the use of passports between the United States and Canada, causes general rejoicing along the border.

In the *Express* newspaper case a stay of proceedings was yesterday granted until after the decision of the General Term has been rendered.

Mr. Henry Steinway, a member of the well-known piano-forte firm in this City, died at his residence in Fifty-third st. on Saturday.

The Maryland Annual Conference of the Methodist Protestant Church is now being held at Elton, in that State.

Chas. E. DuBois, an old and prominent citizen of Bucks County, Pa., died on the 5th inst. at Doylestown.

There were 473 deaths in this City during the

past week, of men, 104; women, 89; boys, 153, and girls, 135.

The Eighth and Ninth-ave. Railroad Companies have reduced their fare to five cents.

The Boards of Aldermen and Councilmen were both in session yesterday.

Seven-thirtieths were sold yesterday to the amount of \$5,346,709.

Gold opened at 101 1/2 yesterday, but soon fell to 101 1/4. The closing price was 100, and the extremes of the day 100 1/2 and 99 1/2. Government stocks are steady with a small business.

In railway mortgages and bank shares little doing. Railway shares at the First Board did not maintain the extreme rates of Saturday, but were firm at a small concession. At the Second Board prices were firm, but after the call were lower.

Money is in good supply at 7 per cent to brokers. For commercial paper no change of consequence in rates or supply. By the bank statement the loans show an increase of \$1,531,225, and the deposits a decrease of \$753,140. Exchange is higher. Leading drawers ask 10 1/2 at 60 days. Merchants, 10 1/2 at 10 days, and francs, 5.20. In freights there has been more doing to-day, but rates are much the same.

Leaving—Stocks firm. Gold active but weak. Sales after call at 104 1/2, at which it stood at the close of the report.

We publish this morning, a letter from Gov. Fenton announcing a postponement of the Draft.

The assurance is given to the Governor by the Provost-Marshal-General, through Lieut. Gov. Alvord, now in Washington, that no draft will be ordered in the State so long as recruiting is "progressing reasonably fast," and where it has already taken place the drafted men will not be required to report if volunteers are procured fast enough to insure the filling of the quota within a reasonable period. This postponement, it is hoped, will stimulate volunteering everywhere. Gov. Fenton appeals to the people to justify his pledge that such shall be the case, and, no doubt, the appeal will be heeded.

We again remind our readers that this is the day for voting on the amendment to create Commissioners of Appeals, and that they ought to vote for the measure. A latent opposition is developing among the Democrats because the appointments for Commissioners are to be made by Gov. Fenton, and not, as they once hoped, by Gov. Seymour, but we are sure no man who is swayed by anything but the merest partisan motives will be thus induced to vote against a reform demanded for the protection of suitors in courts of justice. The measure has no party politics in it—it is simply one of justice, and for the speedier administration of the law, and all good citizens will take pains to give their ballots in its favor.

### THE CAMPAIGN IN NORTH CAROLINA.

On the authority of our own correspondent, writing March 10 from Gen. Cox's headquarters near Kinston, we know that Bragg has met with a repulse instead of a victory on the battlefield of which he boasted. The defeat which the Rebels sustained was on the day following that on which Bragg claimed a victory, and we are in possession only of a few details in the letter of our correspondent of the first day's action.

The column from Newbern, under Gen. Cox's command, had advanced by the 9th of March to within four miles of Kinston without opposition. On the 9th the head of that column was attacked by the united forces of Hill, Hoke, and Bragg, and being heavily outnumbered, sustained a defeat in which we lost two regiments. On the following day the action was renewed, and the enemy are strangely, but we suppose truly, reported to have been reinforced by S. D. Lee's corps, from Hood's army. Their assault was nevertheless repulsed, and they were at the same time attacked in flank and routed with loss. A second assault left them still worse off, and they retreated in confusion, leaving their dead and wounded in our hands. Whether the two regiments taken the day before were recovered we do not know. It may be that Gen. Cox, finding so heavy a force in front of him, will delay his movement on Goldsborough, but if Bragg holds his ground where he will be go when Sherman has taken Raleigh?

The actual position of Gen. Sherman is still matter of conjecture to some extent, but there can be of course no doubt of the fact, as stated by our correspondent, that he is well across the North Carolina line, and steadily advancing northward. The Rebels of course know this fact, and know something of Sherman's line of advance, but they choose to conceal it, because they can say nothing that does not reveal their weakness and his strength. The cavalry skirmish between Gens. Kilpatrick and Hampton would have been very differently reported if the latter had met with any good fortune.

Sheridan's dispatch is probably the most important which that officer ever penned, for it announces at this critical moment that north of the James River there is no longer any communication, whether by rail or canal, between Lynchburg and Richmond. The railroad is destroyed from Charlottesville to within twenty miles of Lynchburg, including many bridges, some of them more than five hundred feet long. The canal is broken up at intervals west of Columbia to Lynchburg, the locks being destroyed, and at New-Canton the great guard lock is broken away, and the mighty current of the James itself pours into the narrow bed of the canal, and sweeps its banks away in a continuous overflow impossible to be checked. And it is this canal which Sheridan says has been the "great feeder" of Richmond. West of the Rappahannock River Sheridan found himself in a country abounding in supplies, and he has cleaned it from one end to the other of mills, factories, stores, provisions—everything that made it valuable to the Rebellion.

Lee has not so much as attempted to stop Sheridan's destructive course. Between Grant who keeps his hold relentlessly on Richmond, and Sherman whose advance upon the doomed capital nothing can avert, the Rebel General-in-Chief has found no leisure to bestow on the swift movement of Sheridan—still less has he been able to spare troops to resist the columns which spread devastation through the valley of the James. More than ever before it begins to be apparent how overwhelmed the Rebel armies are outnumbered, and how helplessly Lee must submit to see

himself either shut up in, or driven from, his capital. If he cannot save his railroads he cannot save anything. He holds now one road to Lynchburg and one to Danville, but a single blow may smother both of them, nor does Lee know that Sheridan may not at any moment deliver that blow. Sheridan's present success and his present position show that he may attempt almost anything, and that unless he attacks Lynchburg itself he may ride the country through without meeting an enemy in arms.

### THE NEW U. S. COURT.

The N. Y. Times says it is not true that the new Federal District and court were created to give office to particular individuals, nor that "there was any such understanding" concerning the appointments to be made, in case the bill should pass, as to preclude the fullest competition for the place (not places.) This is the point in dispute, and it is to be settled not by assertions but by dates and other relevant facts. That the bill was slid quietly and rapidly through both Houses of Congress in the very last days of February—that it had scarcely been passed when the President had already been made, and that Mr. Benedict was before the Senate as the President's nominee for Judge—and that the President and both Senators from our State thenceforth spoke and acted as if they were committed to Mr. Benedict, and did not feel at liberty to consider the claims of any other candidate—these are the facts on which we rely. If they are consistent with the Times' representations, the public will so judge. They will judge, moreover, whether the bar and the public have been fairly treated in the premises. We say that there would have been other candidates for this most important and desirable post had fair play been accorded them.

The Times, virtually admitting that it would not have favored the creation of the new District if its offices were to have been filled by a President of adverse politics, asks—

"In that case, would THE TRIBUNE itself have urged its passage?"

Certainly not; and it did not in the actual case. We cannot say that no paragraph ever crept into our columns which seems to favor the project; but we believe none ever did, and we certainly intended that none ever should; for we think the necessity for this new District was not so urgent that it might not have waited, and that the pressure of business in the Court of our old District might have been otherwise obviated at less expense. As it is, the affair has been so managed as to give it the aspect of a job, and one by no means creditable to those most active in promoting it.

### FRAUDS ON THE NAVY DEPARTMENT.

A resolution of Mr. Hale, recently adopted by the U. S. Senate, has—perhaps unintentionally on his part—resulted in bringing to public notice one Government office which is honestly administered and to the public advantage; to wit, that of Special Commissioner Olcott. The report of Secretary Welles, shows that the whole cost of the investigations into the business of the New-York, Boston, Philadelphia, Washington and Portsmouth Navy-Yards has been a trifling one—\$14,000—salaries, rents, stationery, fuel, traveling expenses, and everything else, included. The actual receipts, from fines, sentences of courts-martial, and restitutions, have been nearly one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars (\$122,661), or about eight and a half times as much as the investigation cost. At such a rate as this, the Government can afford to establish a score of such offices—if it can get men enough of the necessary skill, talent and energy to fill them. In times like these, when there seems to be a universal rush for ill-gotten gains, it is a real consolation to see a public office established simply and solely in the interest of justice and honesty, and to see its manager giving so good an account of his stewardship.

The actual cash balance shown in Mr. Welles' report of the operations of Col. Olcott's office represents only a fraction of the net profit derived by the country from this source. To the credit side of the account must be passed the reforms which have been effected in the management of business in the several Navy-Yards. In New-York, nearly a year ago, a strong ring of contractors was broken up, the Navy Agent was removed and indicted for collusion in frauds (he is not yet tried, and we heartily wish him a good deliverance), new systems of inspection were introduced, and naval supplies have since been procured from first hands instead of from middlemen. In Philadelphia, nearly forty persons were arrested, the Navy Agent was removed, and a most villainous nest of scoundrels was routed. In Boston, the small circle of rascally contractors was exposed and punished; and in Portsmouth and Washington the same course was pursued. In fact, there is no reason to doubt that a sensible advance has been made toward reform; and, if the Department has the good sense to sustain the effort, and Congress does not interfere, we may hope for results of permanent value. What has been already done reflects honor alike upon the Special Commissioner and the Secretary of the Navy who had the courage to engage his services and support him throughout his good work. It is a shame and disgrace that this Government has no organized permanent Bureau to check robbery and expose malfeasance, although its expenses are and have long been running on at the rate of two or three millions a day.

### MAN WANTED.

Panic always rushes to poloitrony, and poloitrony to a pitiable reliance upon other than its own right arm. The carter whose wheels stuck in the mud bawled plaintively to Jupiter, and was informed that the god helped those that helped themselves. The Rebels, who do not shake in their shoes, simply because they have no shoes to shake in, fancy that they need a Dictator. We do not blame them for being sick of their President, and heartily tired of their Congress; but why they should suppose that by surrendering themselves, body, soul and spirit, to Gen. Lee, they will all become victorious

braves, we do not clearly comprehend. Lee may be an extraordinary warrior, but he cannot create those things which the Confederacy most sorely lacks, viz.: beef, bread and battalions. "Robert E. Lee," says the *Richmond Enquirer*, "by and with the consent of the army and the people, will grasp the scepter they may wrench from the hands of Mr. Davis, and wield it for the safety and security of his country's liberty and independence." "Scepter" is an ugly word, and the thing itself is an uncommon utensil to be used in the management of a republic. A monarch seems to be taken for granted. There is only to be a change of dynasty. The sceptre is to be transferred from King Jeff to King Bob! That is all!

Now let us note, following the intimations of *The Enquirer*, what Robert the First is expected to do when he is snug in the purple! "The Congress has utterly failed"—and so he is to legislate. The treasury is empty—and so he is to coin money. The army ranks are miserably thin—Gen. Lee is to thicken them. The Commissary Department is not only out of joint, but out of everything else—and the Dictator is to replenish it. Having supreme power, he is to tax and to take, to confiscate and to conscribe, to make the President his errand-boy, the Secretaries his servants, the people his pliant and unquestioning instruments. The whole scheme has a smack of plantation morality about it which is truly edifying. In spite of their straight and silky hair, their fine Roman noses, their strawberry and cream complexions, and their unexceptionable shin-bones, the proud people of the Confederacy are to be Gen. Lee's wood, and to draw water for the Dictator. This logically involves a most astonishing complication of principles. The white men are the superior race, but in order to keep the black men in an inferior position, the former must, so to speak, abdicate, and take upon themselves the ban of inferiority, there being no first class A. No. 1 human being left in the Confederacy except Robert E. Lee, who will reign a kind of moral Robinson Crusoe, surrounded and served by several millions of Man-Fridays, white, black and yellow!

All this may be delightful in theory, but unless Lee is a much greater man than we think he is, the plan will lamentably break down in practice. There is no one living who can extract blood from a turnip. King Robert will not be Cadmus, he cannot extemporize crops of armed soldiers, nor even crops of corn and potatoes. He may be a good commander of armies, but he must first have armies to command. He may take up arms against a sea of troubles, but like King Canute, he will find the advancing ocean too strong for his regal authority. He may "grasp the scepter," but he will stand in much greater need of a life-preserver. He is excellent at fighting shy—if wise, he will fight very shy indeed of the indignity of a coronation.

### THE OPERA.

Don Giovanni, the ever beautiful, the ever great, attracted, as usual, a large and appreciative audience. The cast was in almost every respect strong, even Lotti, though unequal to the full development of his role, was earnest in his endeavors and rendered much justice to the concerted music. Zucchi, in the character of Donna Anna is broad and noble; Morelli, by true womanly feeling, dignified the unpleasant part of Donna Elvira; Kellogg as the simple, affectionate peasant girl was very charming, although a little more abandon would have given warmth to the coloring. Bellini sang and acted the Don excellently well, and, still, barring his want of depth of voice, was as humorous a Leporello as one of his weight could be expected to be. The concerted music which tests the capacity of singers from its elaborate and musically construction was executed with more than usual care, so that was really pleasant to listen to.

The orchestra throughout was deserving of the warmest praise. We have rarely heard the instrumentation so delicately, so accurately, and so feelingly rendered. Mr. Beggmann seemed to have bestowed upon it as much care as upon a symphonic composition, and the admirable results redound to the credit of all concerned.

—This evening Verdi's opera, "La Forza del Destino," will be performed at the Brooklyn Academy of Music, with Zucchi, Moroni, Massimiliani, Bellini, Sisti and others. This is the last night of the opera season in Brooklyn.

The Concert of Mlle. de Katow and Mr. James M. Well, last night, at Niblo's Saloon, was more largely attended than on any previous occasion, which proves that these artists are growing permanently in favor with the public. Mlle. de Katow played with more than her usual passion and feeling. Expression is her forte, and in that direction we have rarely heard her superior on that instrument. She carried the sympathies of her audience with her, and was honored with encores which she deserved.

Mr. Well gives continued evidence of his thorough education, and of his fine musical instincts. His compositions, by their graceful flow, their melody, fresh and pure, and their elegance of form, increase their charm with every hearing. They image his style, they are a reflex of his feeling, they are thoughtful and tender, and in their delivery he throws so much poetic coloring, he manages the contrasts with such exquisite taste, painting them, as it were, with the delicate hues of an added fancy, a grace born after the thought, that they seem fresh from the master's hand, after many repetitions. His playing is of the truly true piano school, which includes among its disciples Dussek, Mozart, Cramer, Hallgrenner, Moscheles, Beethoven, Hummel, Thalberg, and many other noble names, and Chapin and Gottschalk, with a mental difference, but an identical technique. He is a legitimate in the broadest sense, viewing executive ability, as the servant of Art, as the chisel in the hand of the disciple, to shape out the divine thought of the master, and not as many of our monster pianists, placing manual dexterity as an idol in sight of all, with Art at its feet.

This is the secret why the playing of Mr. Well never tires the hearers. It is not all blaze and flash—it is not all high lights; it has its neutral tints, its cool colors and its warm glow; it has its lights and shadows and its fine shades of feeling—in short it is a tone-picture whose touches betray the hand of a master, and whose power, by force of sympathy, is unconsciously but surely acknowledged by all. On this occasion he excited the warmest admiration and the most genuine enthusiasm. Every piece was encores, Mr. Well has become accustomed to our American pianos, which we believe are unequalled in the world, and we have rarely heard anything more exquisite than the portamento he produced on Chickering's superb grand piano. Nothing could be more truly vocal.

Mrs. P. A. Salviati, we presume, in her pupils. She has a clear voice, and may at some future date be fitted for public presentation. Signor Poncicchi is mysterious in his ways, and hard to find out. What he was supposed to be doing with the recitative to "Infelice" the audience was at a loss to understand—and so was he, evidently. The Aria was sung passably well and no more. We admire the Italian singers very much—they are indeed a band of brothers, and were notably, all born clapping their hands, for whenever a

brother or sister Italian singer appears, be he or she good, bad or indifferent, they turn out in united strength and ornamenting the back of the room most strenuously demand a repetition of every effort. This is a patriotic sentiment that should be abated.

### NEW-YORK PHILHARMONIC CONCERT.

The Fourth Concert (twenty-third season) of the New-York Philharmonic Society took place at the Academy of Music on Saturday evening last. The programme was as follows:

Part I.—Symphony No. 1, in E flat (first time), Haydn. 1. Adagio and Allegro con spirito. 2. Andante. 3. Minuetto. 4. Allegro con spirito. "Fratres Ego." Chorus for mixed voices, Palestrina. German Liederkreis of New-York, under the direction of Mr. Agnew. Part II.—"Credo," in G major, by Franz Liszt, for Chorus. Part III.—"Overture," "Medea," Op. 22, in F minor (first time), Berlioz. Orchestral accompaniment. German Liederkreis of New-York, under the direction of Mr. Agnew. Part IV.—"Overture," "Le Carnaval Romain," Op. 9, in A, Berlioz.

Every one feels incessantly and instantly the charm of freshness which pervades every phase of Haydn's music. It is the melodious out-pouring of a joyful spirit, of a pure heart and a healthy intellect. There is not one morbid thought in all his writings. Music to him was the voice of nature; nature to him was all beauty, and its beautiful spirit he breathed forth in song, which will never die so long as pure, unspiciated musical inspiration continues to be recognized as an element in art. It cannot be denied that Haydn's music sounds small and thin, when contrasted with the massively and elaborately instrumented works of Beethoven and modern writers, but if we examine the works themselves, and observe the beauty of form, the perfect symmetry, the flow of rich, pure melody, the graceful consecutiveness of thought, and the profound, yet natural modulations and attendant harmonies, we are compelled to admit that, while the sounding pomp and thunder of modern instruments serves many a writer, as a veil to conceal a paucity of ideas, Haydn's simple, though beautiful, orchestration, serves to develop the boundless wealth of his inspiration.

The overture, "Medea," is a brilliant piece of instrumentation, intelligently descriptive, but is not marked by much individuality. Reminiscences of Mendelssohn and Weber are very prominent, and we doubt very much if it will stand the test of time.

Berlioz's overture, "Le Carnaval Romain," is quite indescribable. It is a carnival of sounds, wild, fugitive and fantastic; but it is wonderfully instrumented, full of color and variety.

The third concerto by Beethoven for piano and orchestra, was played in a masterly manner by Mr. Richard Hoffman. Something beyond mere digital dexterity is demanded in attacking one of Beethoven's concertos. In them we find an intellectual breadth and grandeur, combined with extraordinary simplicity, most difficult of all to comprehend in the full scope, and to interpret in the true spirit. The style must be broad yet delicately refined, and grave, and passionate, and impetuous, without extravagance or strained expression.

It was neither in the *Allegro*, nor the *Largo*, nor the *Rondo* that he excelled, but in the thorough comprehension of the whole. The *Largo*, of course, is most marked with the grander attributes of Beethoven, and in its breadth of manner, simplicity of design and profundity of expression, we recognize the master's mind. To this Mr. Hoffman rendered perfect justice. His touch, firm and solid, gave out the subject with the fine portamento of a well trained voice, at once noble and expressive. His execution light, crisp and fleet, responded to his sensitive touch, and rendered the expressive fioriture, with that fine intelligent phrasing which gave the true meaning of the author. The *Allegro* and *Rondo* were marked by the same intelligent reading and the same perfection of execution. The executive difficulties, in which none of the tricks of modern pianism can be used, were performed without a tremor and without effort, and the scale passages, rushing up with headlong velocity, and terminating suddenly to recommence the theme, were executed with an aplomb, which could only be accomplished by a technique under perfect control.

The cadenza in the *Allegro* was a fine piece of phrasing, of musical eloquence, and a brilliant example of manual dexterity. The performance as a whole, so full of the finest artistic coloring, has never been excelled in the city, and certainly Beethoven has never had on this continent so intelligent, so sympathetic and so faithful an interpreter. Mr. Hoffman played on one of Chickering's fine Grands, which responded fully to all his demands.

The Liederkreis songs sung two selections, one for eight voices by Palestrina, a wonderful piece of solid harmony, and the other *Credo* by Liszt. They sang accurately, but the voices were not well balanced, and in the *Credo*, especially, the orchestra completely overpowered the vocal strength. Liszt's *Credo* is an unforgivable blemish. It is sound (and very far from pleasant sound) without sense, with here and there a flash of reason, the whole dignified and apologized for by splendid instrumentation. It is of the "Music of the Future" school, and should never be introduced into our insane asylums, or the mildly mad would become raving maniacs. Had such a composition been offered by a resident composer it would have been rejected by the whole Society.

The performance of the orchestral pieces reflects the highest credit upon the conductor, Mr. Carl Bergmann, and the members of the orchestra.

### Niblo's Garden.

Mr. Handmann appears to have changed his view of Shylock since his first appearance at Niblo's Garden two years ago. He has certainly changed the manner of his personation. The repose and quiet earnestness which then distinguished him have given place, if we may judge from his acting last evening, to a vehement and somewhat exaggerated intensity. Its dignity and its picturesqueness, however, still remain. In certain scenes, moreover, he produced effects more bold and more vigorously dramatic than he before displayed. The denunciation of Antonio, in the third act, for example, was a masterpiece of withering invective. Mr. Handmann's Shylock we continue to regard as the best illustration of the character with which we are acquainted.

In the matter of English pronunciation Mr. Handmann does not make the progress we should be glad to chronicle. His enunciation last evening was less distinct and clear than on the occasion of his debut. The fault was probably a casual one, which the patience and assiduity of the young tragedian will promptly overcome.

### A Card.

DEAR SIR: In a report of the arrests made at the Provost Marshal's Office of the Second District, No. 26 Grand st., Williamsburgh, contained in last Saturday's *Tribune*, you say as follows:

"The first arrest made was that of a clerk named Walter W. Holmes, who was sent to the Old Capitol Prison, Washington. The charges against him are understood to be in connection with the enrollment list, with which he tampered in the way of enrolling enrolled men, for a consideration. The young man is not good. On the 13th of January last, a man named John C. Oliver was attacked on the highway, Greenpoint, and robbed of about \$100 in money and gold watch, and for this offense Holmes was arrested and tried before Justice Dalley, who, notwithstanding that Oliver swore positively to his identity, discharged him. Since that time he threatened a reporter who reported the proceedings. At the same time it is said, he turned State evidence, in consequence of which the following gentlemen have been arrested by order of Col. Baker:

As this is the second time that so much of the above quotation as refers to the testimony of Mr. Oliver and the discharge of Holmes has appeared in *THE TRIBUNE*, without any report of the testimony showing the reasons of the discharge, a brief statement of the following facts, which in my opinion required his discharge, I consider justly due to myself. At the time of the robbery Mr. Oliver and wife were boarding in the family of Mr. Holmes, the defendant, in Greenpoint, and he testified on the examination held before me, Feb. 8, that on the night of the 21st of January last, at about 9 o'clock, he was attacked by three men and robbed while coming some recent lot in Greenpoint on his way home, and though the night was dark and cloudy, by the aid of a light from some house, he caught a view of one of the robbers, and for this offense Holmes, which he recognized as that of Holmes. This was the only testimony of the prosecution as to the point of identity, while it was shown by Policeman Discoway that there were no street lamps in the street near where the robbery occurred; that he passed over the exact place at 9 o'clock, and that he

o'clock that evening, and did not see Mr. Oliver, and that there was no light in the house Mr. O. had referred to, and that as soon as he learned of the robbery—which was a few moments later—he went to Holmes's house and saw Mr. Oliver, and asked him whom he "suspected," and then Oliver replied "that he had no idea who it was," and it was also in proof that Mr. O. made the same statement to Serg. Roch and several others. In explanation of this, Mr. Oliver stated that at that time he had reasons for wishing to withhold the truth.

Capt. Davis of the Forty-seventh Regiment testifies that Mr. Oliver stated to him, several days afterward, that he could not identify any of the money he had lost; but Mr. Oliver testified that he identified a \$2 bill on the Williamsburgh City Bank by a blot on the cashier's signature as one of the \$100 notes which he was robbed, and which Mr. Holmes was shown to have passed away, together with a certain "five dollar," which, however, was not shown to have been on the person of Mr. Oliver at the time of the robbery. Mr. Oliver presented a warrant against Holmes about the 24th of February, some twelve days after the occurrence. Upon the examination, Mr. Holmes accounted for his whereabouts for every moment of the night of the occurrence from about 7 1/2 until 9 o'clock, when the news reached him.

John T. Thompson and August Duhanne swore positively as to being in the defendant's company during all that time, a distance of about eight blocks from the place of robbery, and numerous other witnesses swore to the same, excepting only the time required to pass in company with Thompson and Duhanne, about the distance of one block, to a cigar store near the Post-Office, where he remained with a large number of persons until the news of the robbery reached him. He then came home and spent the night with several others in attendance upon Mr. Oliver. These witnesses were all respectable persons in appearance, and Holmes's previous good character being proved, I concluded it my duty to discharge Mr. Holmes, which I did, believing Mr. Oliver mistaken in the person. Respectfully, A. H. DALEY, Justice Fourth District Court. Brooklyn, March 11, 1865.

### The Draft Indefinitely Postponed.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, ALBANY, March 13, 1865.

Assurances are given me by the Provost-Marshal General, through Lieut. Gov. Alvord, who visited Washington at my request, that no draft will be ordered in this State as long as or wherever recruiting is progressing reasonably fast; and where a draft has already taken place, drafted men will not be required to report if volunteers are secured fast enough to give assurance that the quotas will be filled within a brief period. Boards of Enrollment must be kept busy. This indulgence should greatly stimulate to renewed efforts in securing volunteers. Our faith is pledged that such will be the result. I appeal to the people that it be kept.

R. E. FENTON.

### FROM WASHINGTON.

Special Dispatch to The N. Y. Tribune.

WASHINGTON, Monday, March 13, 1865.

### FEDERAL OFFICERS GOING TO MEXICO.

A new and overshadowing sensation has seized upon our armies in the field. It has transpired that many Union officers, distinguished for service and gallantry, whose terms have expired, have yielded to flattering overtures made by responsible parties, and accepted commissions in the National army of Mexico. The service is immensely popular, and thus far the selections made indicate that those of tried ability and valor are specially sought after.

### COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

Senator Harlan has earnestly recommended to the President the appointment of a distinguished member of the Society